Application No. 10/053,675
Art Unit: 3723

Attorney Docket No. 21054.00 Confirmation No. 8412

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 1. (*Currently Amended*) A sliding hammer oil seal remover for pulling an oil seal seated in a housing comprising:

a cylindrical rod having a central axis and a length defined between two ends;

having one of said two ends defining a seal engaging end and another one of said two ends defining a handle end;

• a cylindrical hammer having an axial bore of such dimension as to slide on said cylindrical roc said cylindrical hammer being slidingly mounted on said cylindrical rod and being spaced from said seal engaging end;

a cylindrical impact collar fixedly, and coaxially mounted on said cylindrical rod near along the length thereof, and between said seal engaging end and said handle end, and coaxial therewith and so said impact collar configured as to receive impacts from said cylindrical hammer upon sliding said hammer along said rod in a direction toward said handle end;

said seal engaging end having a flared portion connected with and flaring outward from said rod; said flared portion having a flared end; and a seal engaging lip extending from said flared end perpendicular to said flared portion and generally at a right angle to said rod axis;

whereby <u>said handle end is graspable so as to manipulate</u> said seal engaging end <u>is to be</u> inserted into the <u>an</u> opening of an oil seal, moved laterally, and pulled outward such that said seal engaging lip

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engages the an inner surface of the oil seal; and whereby upon engagement of said seal engaging lip with the inner surface of the oil seal, said sliding hammer is slid along said cylindrical rod in a direction away from said seal engaging end so as to impact impacting said impact collar with sufficient repetitive force so as to unseat said the oil seal from its an oil seal housing, and thus allows pulling force to remove removing the seal.

Claim 2. (Original) The seal remover of claim 1, wherein said flared portion of said seal engaging end tapers from said cylindrical rod into a generally flattened concave configuration having an upper surface and a lower surface between said rod and said flared portion end.

Claim 3. (Original) The seal remover of claim 2, wherein seal engaging lip has a concave upper surface extending downward and perpendicular to said concave flared portion end and a corresponding convex lower free end surface at its lower end.

Claim 4. (Original) The seal remover of claim 3, wherein said seal engaging lip is flat in an axial direction.

Claim 5. (Original) The seal remover of claim 4, wherein said flare portion end is square relative to said rod axis.

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Claim 6. (Original) The seal remover of claim 1, wherein said handle end of said rod forms a handle for grasping said seal remover.

Claim 7. (New) A removal tool for removing oil seals comprising:

a rod member having a first end and a second end, a longitudinal axis defining a length between said first end and said second end;

said first end having a flared portion along the longitudinal axis, and a lip; said second end defining a handle;

a collar concentrically fixed about said rod between said first end and said second end, such that a distance from said first end to said collar is greater than a distance from said collar to said second end; and

an impact member slidably disposed on said rod between said first end and said collar; wherein said handle is graspable to maneuver said lip into contact with a seated seal, said impact member is forcibly slid into contact with said collar so as to unseat the seal with said lip.

Claim 8. (New) The removal tool according to claim 7, said flared portion further comprising a generally flattened concave configuration having an upper surface and a lower\_surface.

Claim 9. (New) The removal tool according to claim 7, wherein said lip is flat in an axial direction.

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